



WHAT'S UP AT SHA'AR ZAHAV!

HOW TO CHANT TORAH

8 sessions, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Tuesdays, January 9 - February 27

Learn Torah cantillation in a relaxed, open atmosphere—open to all. Information about fee and registration available on our website, www.shaarzahv.org. Questions? Contact Reuben Zellman at reuben@shaarzahav.org or 415-861-6932 x316.

MUSIC IN THE MISHKAN

3 Sundays at 4:00 pm

January 28, March 11, April 29

CSZ's chamber music concert series is back for an eighth fabulous season, under the direction of our own Randy Weiss. Tickets available at the door, but advance purchase at www.shaarzahav.org is encouraged.

January 28 - Old World/New World

Piano trios by Brahms, Schoenfield and Shostakovich

March 11 - Tales From Terezin

String trios and quartets from Holocaust-era composers

April 29 - Prague & Madrid

Piano quartets by Dvorak and Turina

SYNAPLEX TU B'SHVAT

Saturday, February 3

Participate in a family Shabbat celebration at Stowe Lake or an environmentally-focused Shabbat service at the shul, then take a fabulous hike at Land's End led by CSZ member Joss Eldredge. Carpools to Land's End will form at shul at 12:15 pm; otherwise, the group will assemble at 1:00 pm in the parking lot at the western end of Land's End.

RAINBOW FUND CELEBRATION

Saturday, February 24, 5:00 pm

Details to be announced.

PURIM

Saturday, March 3

Stay tuned for information at www.shaarzahav.org and in your weekly emails.

MEET REGINA WURST, CSZ's NEW ADMINISTRATOR

JGF: You have just been named Administrator of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. Can you tell us what that means—what does an administrator do?

RW: The Administrator is the overall manager. I'll be involved mainly with the business side of things and with facilities and office staff management. Right now, for example, I'm working on getting all our insurance papers in order.

JGF: What do you do with regards to programming?

RW: CSZ has an active congregation and various committees come up with the programs. I oversee what the programs need, interface with marketing, outreach, and publicity, and maintain the calendar.

JGF: So you are like the spider in the web.

RW: (laughs). Well, I'm in charge of making sure the synagogue runs smoothly, which is a tall order sometimes!

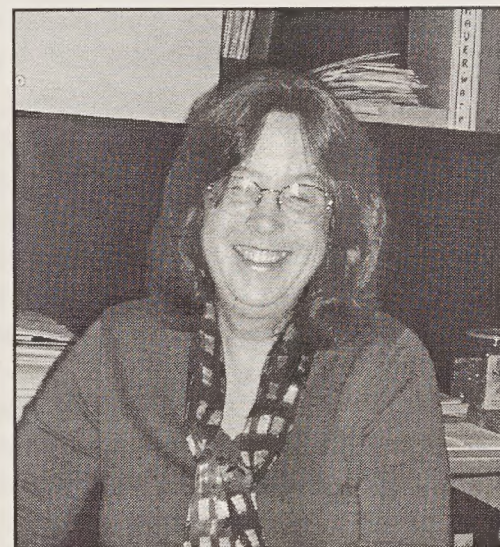
JGF: (laughs) Have you done this kind of work elsewhere?

RW: I just came from a position as Executive Director at Tifereth Israel Synagogue in San Diego. I was there for three and a half years. Before that I was Program Director at Temple Beth Israel in Fresno and I also did some administrative work there.

JGF: What draws you to this kind of work?

RW: I like to work at synagogues. I was a religious school teacher for eight years, I've done programming, I've been a rabbinic aide—I was trained at Hebrew Union College to be a rabbinic aide—and I did that in Fresno. My background is as an engineer, actually, so the facilities management part hasn't been too hard to pick up.

JGF: That's a big move from engineering to synagogue management.



RW: I only did engineering for a short time; I was a full-time mother for some years.

JGF: In fact, I've heard you are now a grandmom.

RW: Yes, I have a 25-year-old daughter, Elisa; a 23-year-old son, Ben; a 21-year-old daughter, Kirsten; and an 18-year-old, Erik. Kirsten's a mom. She's got a three and a half year old son, Elijah.

JGF: Congratulations!

RW: Yes, Kirsten and Elijah live with me and I help raise Elijah. She's looking for a job in San Francisco. My oldest daughter is in Fresno, and my son Ben made aliyah and is going into the IDF soon. Erik is in Oregon with his father. They are all spread around!

JGF: You were living in Fresno before moving to San Diego. Were you always based there?

RW: I grew up in the Oakland/Berkeley area. Actually, my family had been in Berkeley a hundred years when I was born—they came in 1852. So we are old East Bay people. I used to hang out in this neighborhood (gesturing to 16th and Dolores) when I was in my twenties, so I know the area and I'm glad to be back.

JGF: What do you do in your free time?

continued on pg 4



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel

My mom of blessed memory, Shelma Greenberg Angel, loved the natural beauty of this world. While she enjoyed being outdoors, she also took great pleasure in bringing the outdoors indoors with her gift and passion for arranging flowers.

A nationally acclaimed and award-winning flower arranger, my mom held high office in several organizations: she was President of the Arcadia Garden Club, the Director of the Los Angeles County Arboretum District of Garden Clubs, and a Master Judge of Flower Shows for the National Council of Garden Clubs. This range of clubs—she also was a life member of both the California Garden Clubs and Floralia—shows just how passionate she was about flowers.

For my mom, this creative act was more than a hobby; it was her spiritual practice. With flowers and tree blossoms, bamboo and twigs, stones and glass and so many other natural treasures, my mom would make her pieces and then use them in a variety of ways: on *bikkur cholim* visits to brighten up hospital rooms, for *tzedakah*, to raise money for charities, for *Talmud Torah*, to help teach children about protecting the environment and our natural resources. She also crafted works of art for many a Shabbat and holiday table in my home.

Tu B'Shevat was one of her favorite Jewish celebrations. When I was a child, I remember how she would take the pit of the etrog at the end of Sukkot, freeze it, and take it out for Tu B'Shevat. Together we would place it in some moist cotton and watch it germinate. This was a lesson in regeneration, but not so much in gardening, for try as we did, we never managed to grow an etrog tree in our backyard.

The etrog seed reminds me of a midrash. Once Honi was walking along the road when he saw a man planting a carob tree. Honi asked, "How long before it will bear fruit?" The man answered, "Seventy years." Honi asked, "Are you sure that you will be alive in seventy years to eat from its fruit?" The man answered, "I found this world filled with carob trees. Just as my ancestor planted for me, so shall I plant for my children" (Talmud, Ta'anit 23a).

This legend reflects the image of trees as a symbol of eternity, for they live beyond the lifetime of a single human generation. At the same time, the tale shows that, for humans, children can be our trees, our means of achieving some eternity. The story closes the circle, as adults give the gift of trees to the next generation.

I want to thank you for your loving-kindness, your *chesed*, during this sad

time in my life. Your sweet and generous acts have helped to soften the sharpness of my grief. For your words, spoken and written, your food, your calls and visits, all gifts of the heart, I thank you with the fullness of my heart.

As for contributions made to my Discretionary Fund in memory of my mom, it is my family's hope to set these monies aside for specific projects that will enable the congregation to become more environmentally healthy, responsible and green. From buying a bike rack for the front of the synagogue, to planting seed money for grand projects like solar panels, I want us to be like Honi, to plant and protect our garden for those who will come after us. My mother would have loved knowing that her memory helped contribute to such a noble effort.

The details regarding the Shelma Angel Green Fund for the Future are yet to be determined. If you are interested in serving in an advisory capacity, please be in touch with me.

On behalf of my sister, Naomi, and my beloveds, Karen and Lilah Rose, thank you for your warmth and good care.

Camille Shira

THE JEWISH DAILY FORWARD

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

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San Francisco CA 94103

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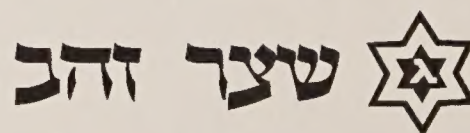
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CANTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE: WHERE WE ARE IN THE PROCESS

By Alex Ingersoll

The Cantor Search Committee has been gathering information during the past three months from CSZ members, our rabbi, and our staff to help define what qualities we are looking for in a cantorial candidate and what we want our new half-time cantor to do – and not do.

The committee held four congregational conversation sessions in October, met with members of the Va'ad and committee chairs, and spoke individually with our rabbi and staff. In addition, we received many comments from congregants via email. At these meetings, we were also able to explain why we are looking for an invested cantor, not a cantorial soloist – namely because of the broader pastoral and teaching skills which an invested cantor brings to us.

Input from the community meetings and emails was immensely helpful in defining the roles and responsibilities of this position, the qualities and characteristics we are looking for in a candidate, and what we view as priorities in their duties. Based on this feedback, we've stressed in our application to the Joint Cantorial Placement Commission of the American Conference of Cantors that we place a

very high value on congregational/lay participation and that we are looking for someone who can teach and inspire lay leaders and congregants, and work in partnership with our lay leadership to further develop and enhance the musical aspect of our worship.

The qualities we are looking for include:

- Knowledge of and ability to teach a range of liturgical styles
- Excellent musicianship
- Flexibility, warmth, enthusiasm and a sense of humor
- A well-trained singing voice flexible enough to blend well with others
- Someone who sings "with us, not at us"

Our most important priorities for the cantor include:

- Encouraging members to participate musically through teaching and mentoring
- Enhancing our services musically
- Participating in children's and adult education
- Assisting the rabbi in pastoral duties (e.g., conducting weddings and



CSZ President Ora Prochovnick's column will return in the next issue.

funerals, visiting the sick)

Our application was submitted in December to the Joint Cantorial Placement Commission. As we receive applications during the next two or three months, we'll be reviewing resumes, scheduling phone interviews and requesting CDs from promising candidates, scheduling in-person interviews and second interviews. We hope to be able to recommend a candidate to the Va'ad and the congregation for approval by April, with a target date to start by High Holidays, 2007.

As always, we welcome your input throughout this process. Please continue to email your comments to cantorsearch@shaarzahav.org, contact committee co-chairs Alex Ingersoll or Liz Schaffer, or speak to another of the committee members: Daniel Chesir, Paula Fleisher, Rose Katz, Jeff Piade, Ruth Rainero, Randy Weiss, or Steve Weitz.

HELP WANTED

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is conducting a hiring search for a part-time Fund Development Coordinator. If you would like to apply, or know anyone with a background in fundraising, sales or marketing who might be interested, please call the CSZ Administrator, Regina Wurst.



Sha'ar Zahav goes green in time for Tu B'Shevat. Photo Courtesy Michael Bettinger

RW: Well, I'm pretty busy, but when I have time I like studying Jewish texts. I've done a lot of reading. I'm very interested in religious ritual and social work—I like working with people.

JGF: Speaking of people, when should members go to you, and when to office staff, and when to the synagogue president with questions?

RW: You can come to me anytime—I am here Monday thru Friday, every day—and if the question isn't appropriate for me I will send you to the right person.

JGF: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

RW: I'd love to meet everyone, so in the beginning I will try to come to

some Shabbat services and events. The congregation has a really good reputation, all across the country, as being very active, very progressive, a real happening place. I am excited to be here and to be part of that.

JGF: Thank you.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

CSZ recently received this letter addressed to rabbinic intern Reuben Zellman and thought it well worth printing (with permission) in the JGF. We would also love to hear from readers of the JGF. Send comments, complaints, praise and other miscellaneous verbiage to jgkaiser@earthlink.net, subject: JGF Letters

Dear Reuben,

This is a letter of gratitude to the people of Shaar Zahav. I

attended your Transgender Day of Remembrance service on Friday night with three of my friends. As transgender people, this is a very special time for us. It is a time of deep and isolating sadness as we reflect on our friends who have lost their lives in dark moments of violence and hatred. To have not only the names of our dead read aloud but to have their final moments described, releases their memory from hands of hatred in which their final moments were

spent. It brings them closer to us, even if it is momentary, as we mourn the loss of our friends who have died because they followed a deep and wonderful truth to be themselves.

Although neither my friends nor I are Jewish, we felt very welcome and grateful to have a place to grieve and remember our friends. Thank you for remembering trans people and for welcoming us.

Warm regards,
Rolan Gregg, San Francisco.

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BRANCHINGS OF TU B'SHEVAT

By Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee

Over the past 500 years, many Jews have celebrated Tu b'Shevat, the New Year of the Trees, with a seder modeled on the Passover seder. However, Tu b'Shevat is not a festival. The Torah prescribes neither rituals nor restrictions for it; in fact the Torah never mentions it.

Tu b'Shevat, which means literally the fifteenth day of the month of Shevat, is first mentioned in the Talmud as a simple accounting convention, a way to assign an age to young trees. The sages chose this date, after some debate, as the time that trees produce buds in the land of Israel. The early winter rains are mostly over, the sap in the trees has risen, and it is time to expect the buds that presage the year's fruit harvest.

The need to proclaim a collective birthday for trees is rooted in the Torah, which tells us to spare young fruit trees from being harvested, letting them use the strength of their first three years to grow. In biblical times, the fruit of the fourth year's crop was brought to the Temple in Jerusalem. But once the Temple was destroyed, such offerings survived only as a memory. To

strengthen the memory, a day dedicated to the ages of trees was worked into the calendar.

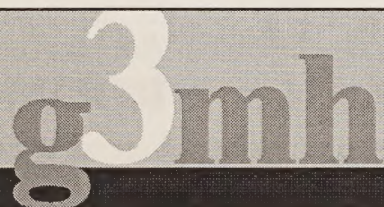
During the many centuries of Jewish homelessness, Tu b'Shevat became a day to commemorate the ancestral connection with the land of Israel. The day was observed by eating fruits mentioned in the Torah as growing there: "Vines, figs and pomegranates... olive trees and date-honey" (Deuteronomy 8:8). Almonds were also eaten since almond trees were believed to be the first to blossom in the Israeli spring. Carob became the most popular fruit to use, since it could survive the long trip from Israel to Jewish communities in Europe and North Africa.

For the mystical Kabbalists, trees symbolized The Tree of Life, which carries divine goodness and blessing into the world. To encourage this flow, and thus bring about Tikkum Olam, the mending of a torn world, the 16th-century Kabbalists of Tsefat created the first Tu b'Shevat seder.

With the growth of Zionism and founding of the State of Israel, Tu b'Shevat became a day when children who lived near Jerusalem planted trees, helping the land heal from centuries of Ottoman neglect. It is still a day that Jews around the world contribute money to the Jewish National Fund and tzedakah for those in need. One tradition is to donate 91 cents or dollars to tzedakah, since 91 is the numerical value of the letters that make up the Hebrew word for tree, ilan.

During the late twentieth century people began to recognize the threats to all life from pollution, pesticides, deforestation, and global warming. In our time Tu b'Shevat has become an occasion to renew our understanding of nature not as our background but as our matrix, the ground of our being, with which we perish or flourish.

Tu b'Shevat has itself grown like a tree, branching as the Jews who observed it continually discover new reasons to celebrate to this simple birthday of the trees.



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Pinat Yeladim U'mishpachah

Children and Family Corner



FAMILY CALENDAR

To Find Out More About These Programs
Go to the Sha'ar Zahav Website at www.shaarzahav.org/children-families

BABY CHAVURAH

Sunday, January 21 10:30 am

Sunday, February 18 10:30 am

Meets at Duboce Park (Noe @ Duboce)

Bad weather: Meet at CSZ at 4:00 pm

Join the Baby Chavurah listserv

by emailing Jonathan Crosby at

yyohan@yahoo.com

TOT SHABBAT

Saturday, January 20

Saturday, February 17

For more information contact

Mary Jane Eisenberg at

maryjane@shaarzahav.org.

"FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!"

CSZ'S NEW FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, January 12 6:00 pm

Friday, February 9 6:00 pm

Monthly Family Shabbat Service
designed for children 0 – 6 year

FAMILY KABBALAT SHABBAT

Friday, January 19

Friday, February 16

Potluck at 6:30 pm;

Service follows.

Contact Mary Jane Eisenberg at

maryjane@shaarzahav.org or

415-861-6932 x302.

THE YEAR SO FAR

By Mary Jane Eisenberg, Director of Children's and Family Education

We have now completed our first unit of learning at Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer. Our Celebration of Learning for "Sacred Time and Sacred Space" on November 11 was truly exciting. Each class presented what they had focused on during this unit. Each student was thoroughly involved in the culminating presentation as well as the unit's endeavors.

Congregation member Andrew Ramer gave a fun, meaningful and interactive lesson to students, teachers, madrichim and parents on the unit topic. With a ball of string we constructed a sacred space for Beit Sefer within the Oneg Room. For one hour a sacred time was established within the sacred time of Shabbat to learn and pray together as one community of intergenerational learners.

Andrea's Ge'avah (k-1) class showed us their Shma pillows representing lessons on nighttime Jewish rituals. Risa's Ge'avah (k-1) class presented a Creation Mural Fashion Show, complete with a

charming announcer, Harry Bernholz, and creation mural fashion models Bria Odegard, Sophie Rose Katz, and Ro'e Zaid. The Shinui (2-3) class connected their favorite events to Jewish sacred time and sacred space. Kehillah (4-5) engaged us in a game of student-created "Jewpardy" demonstrating sacred time and space across the Jewish spectrum of cultures and denominations. Kadimah (6-8) created a beautiful quilt of student's images and thoughts about their favorite Jewish Sacred Holiday.

Kudos to teachers Andréa Guerra, Risa Lichtman, Kendra Lubalin, Nili Yosha, Elisabeth Wakcher and Rachael Neumann as well as teaching assistant, AJ Turpen-Fried, and Madrichim Ilana, Shira, Adam and Gabe. Thank you for creating thoughtful, engaging and creative lessons and projects within supportive learning environments so that our students could have an exciting Jewish learning experience.

SHA'AR ZAHAV DESIGN TEAM: CONGREGANTS IN THE CLASSROOM

Another dedicated Sha'ar Zahav Design Team is about to begin working with Beit Sefer's Kadimah (b'nei mitzvah, 6th/7th grade) class. We have been meeting monthly since October, studying and discussing Talmudic issues of fairness, with an eye towards what we would like to share with the class.

In January we will teach two Saturday classes, sharing what we've learned and hearing from the kids what they think about our two focus issues: theft, and honoring one's parents – looking for what Jewish values teach us about the balance between respecting authority and challenging it.

The team this year again consisted of CSZ members with and without children, and again it has been a fun way for us all to get to know each other through studying and teaching. Team members are Sara

Gorr (who did the organizational legwork – a big Todah Raba to Sara!), Kevin Johnson, Batya Kalis, Joseph Ramirez-Forcier, Karen Schiller, Amy Shustak, and Debbie Levy.

We look forward to getting into the classroom, working with the kids, and sharing what we have learned. Our Family Shabbaton should be a lot of fun, as well as an opportunity for some real learning to take place on many levels – for both adults and youth. The Design Team continues to build bridges within our community, and to further our goal of being a congregation of learners.

With the help of some grant money, we are hoping to grow this program in the coming years. If you might be interested in participating in next year's Design Team, speak to Debbie or Mary Jane, or any team members.

NOW INTRODUCING ... JANUARY AND FEBRUARY'S B'NEI MITVAH!

SOPHIE ROSE MACKS

On January 13, 2007, Sophie Rose Macks will become a Bat Mitzvah.



"Working with my mentor, Laura Lowe, has been a really great inspiration and a great way to focus on my preparation for becoming a Bat Mitzvah," says Sophie.

Sophie is a fifth generation San Franciscan and has attended Presidio Hill School since she was in kindergarten. Currently, she is in seventh grade there. Sophie loves to read, draw, and photograph. While on her trip to Italy, Turkey, and France, Sophie and her mother, Judy, took over two thousand photographs.

Traveling is definitely one of Sophie's passions. She hopes to visit every continent at least once and would like to take her junior year abroad in Latin America so she can become fluent in Spanish.

In her spare time (which isn't much, especially now) Sophie enjoys playing soccer and basketball. She hopes to devote some of her time and energy to tikkun olam, especially focusing on homelessness and poverty throughout the world.



ANNA SCHWARTZ- COHEN

Anna is hard at work and very excited about her bat mitzvah on February



10th. Anna goes to Star Academy in San Anselmo and, among many other interests, is a passionate opera buff!

Anna's bat mitzvah date falls on parsha Yitro, which includes the story of Moses receiving the Ten Commandments, the guiding moral principles and rules to help the community of Jewish people be respectful and cohesive. This seemed fitting for Anna, as she is a very kind and compassionate person, and cares tremendously about people getting along and being good to each other. As someone who has struggled with learning disabilities and special needs, Anna knows first hand how important it is to have a strong code of ethics and to treat everyone with respect.

She also knows how important it is to get help from people – friends, family, teachers, professionals and the broader community. Anna's bat mitzvah has been an incredible journey and is a huge accomplishment for her. It will be a time of real celebration. Our whole family is grateful for the support she has received at CSZ and how welcomed and appreciated she has been throughout this process. Special thanks to Karen Segal, Rabbi Camille Angel, Andrew Ramer and Sue Bojdak -- we're psyched for the big day!

To get everyone in the proper party spirit, Sophie Macks distributed special kipot when she co-led services on her birthday this past November.

JONATHAN WILLIAMSON

On Saturday, January 20, 2007 Jonathan Williamson will become



Bar Mitzvah. Jonathan will turn 13 on January 24 and is in the seventh grade at Lipman Middle School in Brisbane.

He enjoys soccer, cooking, and being a teen photographer for the JGF. He studies piano and is looking forward to resuming work on his Third Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo.

Jonathan has been a member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav since he was five years old and had his naming ceremony here.

As a Star Scout, Jonathan enjoys working with younger kids in his troop and hopes to work at CSZ as a madrich, as well as lead services.

He says "I think my Bar Mitzvah studies are going very well and I am making lots of progress. My daily work on my Torah, Haftorah, mitzvot, and drash makes me feel great because I enjoy doing things for the first time. It is also making me feel closer to God, the congregation, and my Jewish heritage."

Jonathan is very grateful to his mentor, Larry Wexler, and all his teachers, especially Ila Cherney and Sue Bojdak, for helping him arrive at this very special event.

BEIT SEFER DATES TO REMEMBER

**January 13 –
Sophie Macks Bat Mitzvah**

**January 20 –
Jonathan Williamson Bar Mitzvah**

**February 3 –
Family Tu B'Shevat Celebration at
Stowe Lake in Golden Gate Park**

**February 10 –
Anna Schwartz-Cohen Bat Mitzvah**

**February 24 –
Celebration of Learning –
Tzedek / Justice**

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JANUARY 2007

TEVET / SHEVAT 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	2 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	3 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	4 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	5 8:15 pm Shabbat Service	6 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
7 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	17 8 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	18 9 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service 7:00 pm How to Chant Torah Class Begins	19 10 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	20 11 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	21 12 6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	22 13 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Sophie Mocks Bat Mitzvah
14 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	24 15 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	25 16 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	26 17 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	27 18 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	28 19 6:30 pm Family Potluck 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	29 20 1 Shevat Rosh Chodesh Shevat 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Jonathan Williamson Bar Mitzvah
21 10:30 am Baby Chavurah at Duboce Park 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	2 22 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	3 23 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	4 24 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	5 25 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	6 26 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	7 27 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service
28 4:00 pm Music in the Mishkan 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	9 29 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	10 30 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	11 31 6:30 pm Ma'ariv Service	12		

FEBRUARY 2007

SHEVAT / ADAR I 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				13 Shevat	Synaplex Tu B'Shevat 8:15 pm Shabbat Service	Synaplex Tu B'Shevat 9:00 am Torah Study 10:00 am Shabbat Service *
				19	20	21
				6	7	8
				17	18	19
				24	25	26
				1	2	3
				8	9	10
				15	16	17
				22	23	24
				29	30	1
				6	7	8
				13	14	15
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				4	5	6
				11	12	13
				18	19	20
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DONATIONS

AIDS FUND DONATION

Harold Podgur
in memory of Arthur Lazere.

ADULT EDUCATION

BIKKUR CHOLIM FUND

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Sylvia Radovich
in honor of her daughter, Lydia.

David Stein & Bill Stewart
in memory of David's parents,
Albert and Fannie Stein.

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in honor of Alex Ingersoll &
Martin Tannenbaum's new home.

CHESIR-STEIN MUSIC FUND

Steve Elman & Tom Holt
in honor of David Stein and Bill Stewart's
Kiddushin.

Jonathan Funk
in honor of Kipp Leyser and David Gary's
50th birthdays.

GENERAL FUND

Steve Abensohn

Michelle Bloomberg & Margaret Robertz

Peggy Cooper

Avraham Giannini
in honor of Scott Graham entering into the
covenant.

Avi, Will, Boaz and Shai Garcia-Goldberg
in honor of Sidney Maely Goldfader-Duffy.

Batya Kalis
in honor of Kelley Clements' entry into the
covenant.

Sheryl Kane

David Lasker

Debbie Levy

Ron Lezell
in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky's Big
Birthday.

Karen Schiller
in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky's birthday.

Mary Skinner & Janeen Smith
in gratitude of Tiela Chalmers.

Rebecca Welder

Ron Wolberg

HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGE 5767

Donald Abrams

Adam Barrett

Roy Bateman

Judith Bell

Dan Bellm & Yoel Kahn

Martin Blake

Bruce Blumberg

Evelyn Blumenthal
in honor of Jeff Blumenthal, Robert
Blumenthal and Jill Wagan.

David Brinkley

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Patricia Byers

All Cannon & Jessica Israel

Wendell Choo

Arthur Cohen

Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman

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Patricia Gilbert

Cara Goldfader

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Sara Gordon

Marius Greenspan

Sara Haber & Beth Sousa

Lawrence Helman

Jason Honig

Michael Hulton

Murray & Norma Kane

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Walter Leiss

Mark Leno

Debbie Levy

Ron Lezell

Jeffrey Lilly

Matthew Lindner

Marc Lipschutz

Edward Lopatin

Susan Lubeck

Ben Lunine

Eileen Lynette & Charlene O'Neill

Ruth Mahaney

Billie Mandel & Ryan Buchholz

Peter Marcus

Barbara McMahon

Nancy Meyer

Melanie Miguel & Michael Shiloh

Judith Hibbard-Mipaas

Ellen Murland & Barbara Rinkoff

Florence & Steven Nacamulli
in memory of Allen Harris.

Rachel Neumann & Risa Lichtman

Adam & Sarah Orman

Andrew Parker-Rose

Lynne Piade & Bruce Chaban

Samantha Piell

Harold Podgur

Stuart & Lee Pollak
in honor of CSZ's beautiful holiday ser-
vices.

Francesca Prada
in memory of Teddy Josephs.

Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz

Andrew Ramer

Neil Rosenbaum

Todd Rothman
in memory of George Farkas.

Ari & Kimberly Rubinfeld
in honor of Mr. Paul Cohen.

Sharyn Saslafsky

Karen Schiller

Craig Shear

Neal Shorstein

Stacey Shuster

Nancy Silverrod

H.M. Smolens
in honor of friends, Alan Samuel and
Martin Spector, on the occasion of the
High Holidays.

Cynthia Steinberg

David Stein & Bill Stewart

Roland Stern

Kayla Strassfeld & Stefan Lynch

William Teweles

Martin Tilzer

Miriam Trentman

Susan Unger

Jon Uyterlinde

Dana Vinicoff
Anita Weissberg
Randall Weiss
Brooke Welch
Larry Wexler
Gail Zellman

IN KIND DONATIONS

Ida Kuluk

Two rolling educational media towers for use by our Beit Sefer school.

Richard Meyerson

Support for recycling used paint during our building painting process.

JERUSALEM OPEN HOUSE
EMERGENCY FUND

Dan Bellm & Yoel Kahn
Wayne Bender
Daniel Chesir
David Couch & Nancy Halloran
Jonathan Funk
Lisa Katz
Deena Lahn & Mary Schroeder
Ron Lezell
Ruth Rainero
Andrew Ramer
Karen Schiller
Barry Schmell
Lisa Szer
Reuben Zellman

MISHKAN DOLORES PHASE 2

Arthur Cohen
Anonymous

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EDUCATION FUND

Nancy Meyer
in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.
George Mintzer
David Stein & Bill Stewart
in memory of Bobbie Cahn.
Jonathan Zimman
In memory of Sybil Meyer's mother,
Margot Berstein.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ann Bauman & Kelly Thiemann
in memory of Shelma Angel.
Allan Berenstein
in memory of Shelma Angel.
Lawrence Best & Ming Leung
in memory of Shelma Angel.
Barbara Braasch & Sharon Snyder
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Daniel Chesir
in memory of Shelma Angel.
Rabbi Robert Levine
in loving memory of Shelma Angel.

Jason Feinberg
in memory of Shelma Angel.

First Mennonite Church
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Manny Fishman & Leslie Kane
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Paul Fishman & Mike Kurokawa
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Danny Fishman-Engel
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Jonathan Funk
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Rebecca Goldfader & Bevan Duffy
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Rose Katz
in memory of Shelma Angel.
in appreciation of Reuben Zellman's
musical leadership at High Holidays.
in honor of the wedding of Aimee Durfee &
Tamhas Griffith
in honor of the wedding of Lydia Radovich
& David Zinn.

Robert Katz & John Brouillette
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Lisa DiGirolamo & Janet Klein
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Cynthia Kopec & Steve Burley
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Melanie Kushnir
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Debbie Levy
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Ron Lezell
in memory of Shelma Angel.
in gratitude of Rabbi Angel for her
support and guidance for Elijah's
Bar Mitzvah.

Marc Lipschutz
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Gerry Llamado
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Eileen Lynette & Charlene O'Neill
in memory of Mavis Eldredge.

Jean MacLachlan
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Steve Mazer
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Nancy Meyer
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Richard Meyerson
in honor of Alex Ingersoll &
Martin Tannenbaum's new home.

in honor of Lydia Radovich and
David Zinn's Wedding.

Ron & Ruth Miguel
in memory of Shelma Angel.

George Mintzer

Florence & Steven Nacamulli
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Mark Oliver & Steven Polsky
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Daniel Ostrow
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Michael Sarid & Michael Lazcano
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Sharyn Saslafsky
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Barry Schmell
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Susan Schwartz
in loving memory of our dear friend,
Renee Leicher.

Arthur Slepian
in memory of Shelma Angel.

David Stein & Bill Stewart
in honor of Rabbi Angel, thanking her for
their wedding.

Max Strassfeld & Stefan Lynch
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Lisa Szer
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Miriam Trentman
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Elaine Weissman
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Irving & Barbara Weissman

Marian Weissman
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Jonathan Zimman
in memory of Shelma Angel.

Michael Zimmerman
in memory of Shelma Angel.

RAINBOW FUND 5766

Nurit Robinson

RAINBOW FUND 5767

Batya Kalis
in honor of Lydia Radovich & David Zinn's
wedding.
in memory of Shelma Angel.
in memory of Albert Cohen, cousin of
Mike Klayman.

RITUAL FUND

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

SPONSORSHIPS

OCTOBER

6/7

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by
Ellen Murland & Barbara Rinkoff in honor of
their 20th anniversary.

Oneg generously sponsored by
Lisa Szer in honor of Yael Dayan.

13/14

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by
James Carlson in memory of his brother-in-
law, Robert Roginski.

27/28

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by
The Va'ad in honor of Lydia Radovich &
David Zinn's wedding.

Oneg generously sponsored by
Michael Bettinger & Bob Goldstein in honor
of the 19th anniversary of their kiddushin.

NOVEMBER

3/4

Bimah flowers generously sponsored by
Kelly Cytron in memory of her friend,
Susan Dale.

Oneg & Saturday Lunch generously
sponsored by The Miller Family in honor of
the Jeffrey A. Miller Scholar-In-Residence
Program & in memory of Jeffrey A. Miller.

10/11

Saturday Oneg generously sponsored by
Jo Ellen Kaiser.

17/18

Bimah Flowers generously sponsored by
Patricia Barber in honor of the namings of
Andre Villasenor and his daughter, Ariella
Villasenor.

24/25

Oneg generously sponsored by
Craig Shear in memory of his mother,
Gloria Shear.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome!

Naomi Sunshine, Jill Szuchmacher, and
Eva Rachel Sunshine Szuchmacher

Tamar Gershon and Eliana Gershon

NACHES

Naomi Sunshine and Jill Szuchmacher
on the arrival of Eva Rachel Sunshine
Szuchmacher, who was born on October 4
(12 Tishrei).

Tsipora Prochovnick for completing the
Treasure Island to Embarcadero swim (1 1/2
miles) on October 14, 2006.

Tiela Chalmers for being promoted to
Executive Director of the Volunteer Legal
Services Program of the Bar Association of
San Francisco, where her responsibilities in-

clude program oversight and management,
fund development and directing a staff of 35
for an organization providing free representa-
tion to indigent clients.

Janis Portal whose drawing, *Pregnant
Woman*, has been selected to be on the cover
on the Jan/Feb issue of *Lesbian Connection*.
To see Janis' art, go to www.portalrepresentations.com

Steve Weltz who received his Master of
Science in Organization Development from
the University of San Francisco.

The entire CSZ community for their quick re-
sponse by pledging support to the Jerusalem
Open House, whose efforts to create peace
and tolerance during the Pride March in
Jerusalem were a success! We proudly an-
nounce our raising of over \$2100 in such a
short time frame. Thank you all for your col-
lective conscious effort and support.

Reuben Zellman who has gone above and
beyond the duties of rabbinical intern this
October and November during Rabbi Angel's
observance of shloshim. If you see Reuben,
please thank him for the fantastic job that
he has done this month and throughout his
tenure at CSZ thus far. Thank you Reuben.
You're the best!

**All who attended the Interfaith Thanksgiving
service:** we raised 161 lbs of food and \$383
for the SF Food Bank.

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To remember a loved one
To honor friends and family
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the CSZ community

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MENNONITE QUILTING GROUP AT CSZ

By Karen Kreider Yoder

News from our friends at the First Mennonite Church, which rents space from CSZ every Sunday.

After meeting for 20 years in member homes, First Mennonite Church of San

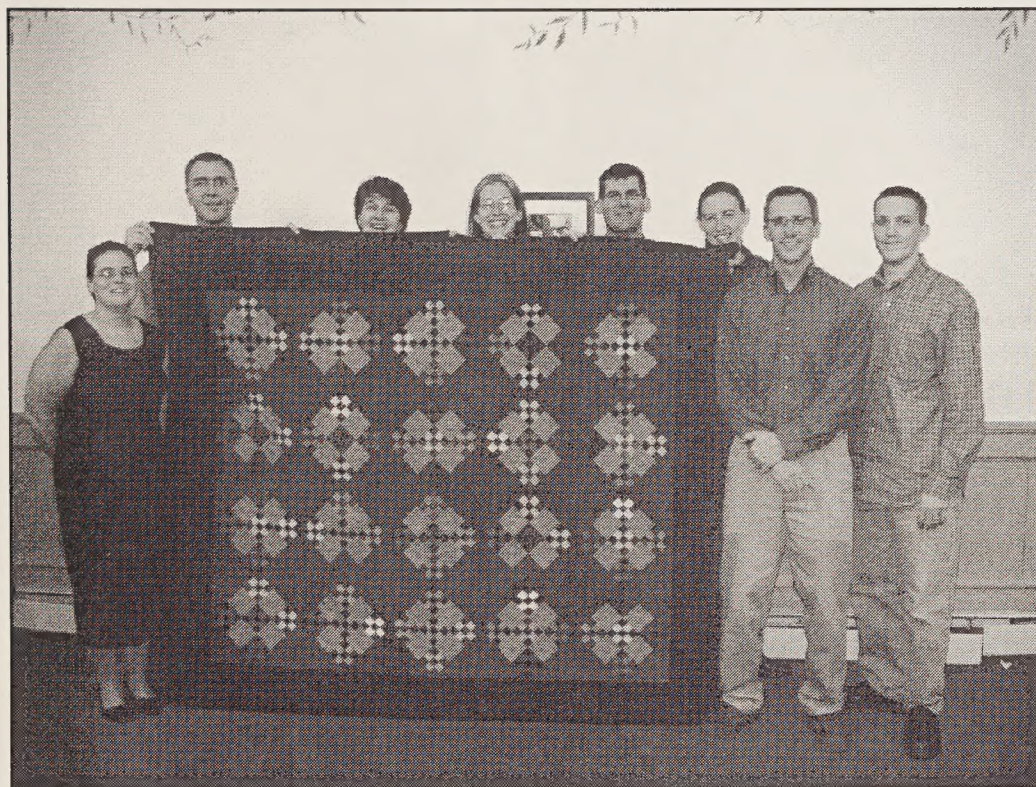
Francisco's quilting group has found a new, convenient quilting home in the Oneg Room. This winter we are working on a "Roman Stripes" youth-sized quilt in black and solid colors, a pattern typically Amish in design. Russ Schmidt, a mem-

ber of FMCSF, pieced the quilt top, and the group of approximately 8 quilters is working on quilting it.

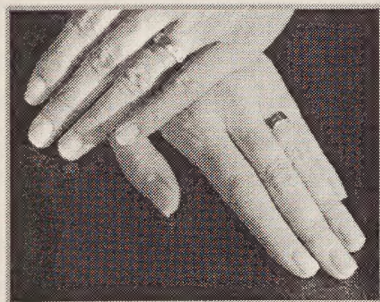
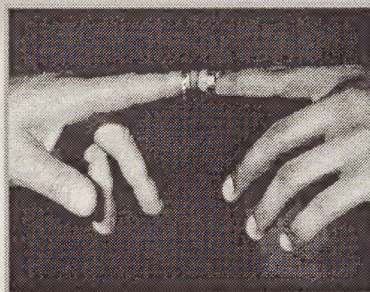
The finished quilt will be auctioned in Fresno at the West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale in early April. The proceeds of the quilt auction support the worldwide relief and development efforts of Mennonite Central Committee.

Many people assume that our quilters are older women, but about half of our quilters are men, and many are in their twenties. Several researchers interviewed our group several years ago, and a brief description of our quilting group was included in a study on Mennonite quilting at the website <http://www.quiltingculture.com/pages/news/westcoast.htm>

If you would like to see quilting in progress, feel free to come anytime between noon and 4 pm on the first or third Sunday of the month. You may direct any questions to Karen Kreider Yoder at kkyoder@yahoo.com



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DATE!**

**THURSDAY,
MAY 17TH**

**30TH
ANNIVERSARY
DINNER
FOR CSZ**

PROFILE: RABBI JULIUS AND PEARL FUNK

By Jonathan Funk

Attending Friday night services at Sha'ar Zahav was always the highlight of my parents' annual summer trip to San Francisco over the 20 or so years that they came from New Jersey to visit me. (Dinner at Greens was a close second.) Not only did they enjoy hearing me chant the prayers and sing songs from the bimah, but they relished the opportunity to greet old friends whom they had come to know over the course of their many visits. Whether on Danvers Street or Dolores Street, my parents always found the services meaningful and moving. And their presence at services proved very meaningful to many others as well.

My father z"l, who passed away in June at age 92, and my mother z"l, who died in 2004 at age 84, were unique among visiting parents to Sha'ar Zahav. In the 1980s and 90s, other parents would occasionally come to the synagogue to sit in on a service. But my parents were the only rabbi and rebbetzin (Rabbi's wife) to come to Sha'ar Zahav to visit their son, his partner, his friends and his extended synagogue family, and were among the very few parents who came every year to services.

More importantly, they attended with enthusiasm (after that first slightly awkward year), to the point where my father joined me on the bimah when I led services, first to deliver a d'var Torah (which he did on two or three different occasions), and then to sing duets with me. How my mother kvelled (flushed with pride) from the front row to hear the two of us sing "Y'did Nefesh," her favorite song, in two-part harmony, in honor of her birthday.

And how members of the congregation responded to this show of support and acceptance from these Jewish community leaders in their 70s and 80s! I know I saw many a moist eye in the house when my dad and I sang together... It meant a great deal to me to have this level of support from my parents; it also spoke volumes for others at Sha'ar Zahav, especially those whose parents, sadly, were not so interested or accepting.

Jewish music has always been important to our family. In addition to being a rabbi



who spent his career as the Hillel Director at Rutgers University, my father served as a High Holiday cantor for a couple of different local congregations over a period of many decades. For the 20 or so years before he grew too weak to handle the task in his late 80s, he chanted the High Holiday prayers for the "parallel" service at the Highland Park Conservative Temple in my home town. Many members would choose to sit in this "overflow" service rather than in the main sanctuary (where the full-time chazzan davened) because of how beautifully my father sang, and because of the deep kavanah (devotion) evident in his voice.

I brought many of my father's melodies to Sha'ar Zahav when I moved here and joined the congregation in 1982, and continue to use them today when I lead High Holiday services. Quite a few other service leaders have now incorporated those melodies into their service leading, which gives me great satisfaction. I know it would have pleased my parents no end to hear other service leaders "channeling" my father when they lead services with the tunes he passed down to me.

One of the musical and religious highlights for our family each year has been our Passover seder gatherings, which, especially as my nieces and nephews grew older, were music festivals in their own right. We sang every part of the Hagaddah that could be sung, and everyone harmonized as they wished, to the delight of our guests. Some seder songs have multiple melodies, so we would sing them all, sounding like a

choir. Danny, who is the lead singer of the highly-regarded Jewish music group Safam, often leads us in song, and Joel, who is a talented song-writer and pianist, would provide the most intricate harmonies. The rest of us join in to fill out the sound and to provide a spirited and spiritual seder experience. This is one family tradition that will surely continue even now that my parents are no longer here to organize it.

Knowing how much Jewish music and Sha'ar Zahav meant to my parents, I wanted to honor their memories by establishing a fund to support special musical events at the synagogue. The Fund will be called the Rabbi Julius and Pearl Funk Musical Event Fund, and will be used to support guest cantors, singers and/or instrumentalists who might augment our services on an occasional or ongoing basis, pay for High Holiday musicians, perhaps a choral event or two... whatever the rabbi, Ritual Committee and leadership of the congregation determine; and if we are fortunate enough to engage a cantor of our own, he or she will surely find the availability of this fund helpful in establishing new musical opportunities for the congregation. I am hopeful that others will see fit over time to contribute to the fund for special occasions or in memory of loved ones, knowing that it will be used to enhance our spirituality through music. And in so doing, my parents will live on in the beautiful music we will enjoy at Sha'ar Zahav.

CONDOLENCES

Rabbi Camille Shira Angel, on the death of her mother, Shelma Angel.

Ellie Cohen, Miki Goralksy, Leah Goralsky Cohen, and Asaf Goralsky Cohen, on the death of their father, father-in-law, and pop-pop, respectively, Gil Cohen.

Ron Edelman, on the death of his mother, Betty Edelman.

Alan Foss, on the death of his grandmother, Mildred Nelson.

Mike Klayman, on the death of his cousin, Albert Cohen.

Patricia Lin, on the death of her uncle, Tseng-Tse Lin.

Ben Lunine, on the death of his friend, Lisa Niebauer.

Sybil Meyer, Mary Anne Ruyle, and Zachary Ruylemeyer, on the death of their mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother, respectively, Margot Bernstein.

George Mintzer, on the death of his friend, Rabbi Sydney Akselrad.

Ellen Murland, Barbara Rinkoff, and Sophie Rinkoff-Murland, on the death of Ellen's father, Milton Murland.

Ora, Tsipora, and Shayna Prochovnick and Rena Frantz on the death of Ora's father, Ammiel Prochovnick.

Ora, Tsipora, and Shayna Prochovnick and Rena Frantz, on the death of their cousin, Rose Resnick.

Sharyn Saslafsky, on the death of her uncle George Silverman.

Susan Schwartz and Judith Wolfe, on the death of their friend's mother, Renee Leicher.

Susan Simpson, on the death of her friend, Ben Ananian.

YAHREZEITS

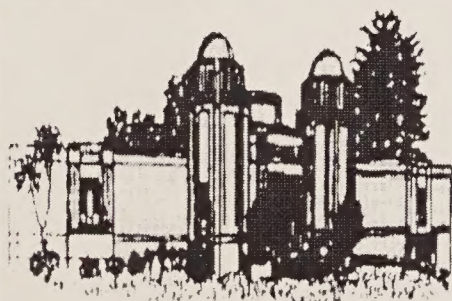
JANUARY

- 2 Robert Marshall
- 3 Shirley Polansky
- 4 Ronald Stein
- 9 Jerome Davis
- 18 Keith Fenton
- 20 Eli Field
- 20 George Ash
- 21 Seymour Feinland

- 22 Lynn Gehler Levinson
- 26 Joseph Rich
- 27 Cheryl Orvis
- 27 Dorothy Rich

FEBRUARY

- 1 Steven Richter
- 2 Stephen Walters
- 3 Eli Weinstein
- 3 Gloria Constable
- 4 John Atteridg
- 6 Warren Fuerman
- 6 Barbie Stein
- 6 Ronald Wilmot
- 7 Morris Israel Epstein
- 10 Ephraim Troy
- 10 Ziggy Gimnichner
- 11 Marilyn Epstein Levine
- 13 Allen Harris
- 14 Barbara Rosenblum
- 15 Esther Elzner
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*Rabbi Camille
Shira Angel*

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(415) 921-3636
FD 262

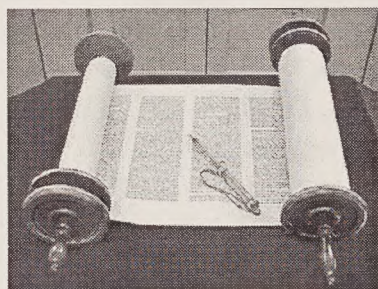
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Pre-need funeral
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*Gene B. Kaufman, Executive Director
Helen Schwartz, Pre-need Counselor*

SHA'AR ZAHAV GIFT SHOP

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Open 1st Friday,
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all other weeks,
6:45-7:20 pm or
by appointment.
Call 861-6932

SYNAGOGUE INFORMATION CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

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office@shaarzahav.org (email) • <http://www.shaarzahav.org> (web)

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• president@shaarzahav.org

First Vice President, Sara Haber

Vice President, Drew Parker-Rose

Vice President, Judy Schwartz

Treasurer, Tony Harris

Recorder, Lydia Radovich

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Arthur Slepian,

Immediate Past President

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Paula Fleisher

Avi Goldberg

Marc Lipschutz

Richard Meyerson

Shelli Rawlings-Fein

Amy Scharf

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bikkur Cholim, open

Book Group, Mark Mackler

Building and Grounds, Irene Ogus

Bylaws, Howard Steiermann

Children's Education Board,

Debbie Levy

Cemetery, David Stein

Dues, Lisa Katz

Endowment Fund, David Stein

Finance, Tony Harris

Fine Arts, Barbara Cymrot

Fund Development, Marianne Balin

and Martin Tannenbaum

Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin and Jeffrey Lilly

Israel, Miki Goralsky and

Steve Mazer

I.T., open

Kesher, Kelly Cytron and

Katrina Kuzniuk

Leadership Development and Volunteer

Coordination, Sara Haber

Library, Bernard Schertzer

Membership, Judy Schwartz

Newsletter, Jo Ellen Kaiser

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Personnel, Drew Parker-Rose

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Progressive Chavurah, Jim Frazin

Public Relations, Robert Bernardo

Rabbi Liaison, Alex Ingersoll

Ritual, Leslie Kane and Jeff Piade

Social Action, Sara Haber

UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir

WCGLBTJ Liaison, Sarita Grossiter

Website, Sara Haber, Steve Mazer and

Noam Szoke

• webmaven@shaarzahav.org

Women's Chavurah, Abi Weissman

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, please notify the synagogue office.

Member of the Union for Reform Judaism and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Jews